JUL 27 2021

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To:

Jen Cooper, State Ethics Director

From:

Josh Garrison, Associate Commissioner

Date:

July 27, 2021

Subject:

Gift Rule Waiver - Teresa Lubbers

Name of Recipient: Teresa Lubbers

Title of Recipient: Commissioner

Brief Description of Item Solicited, Accepted or Received and approximate value of item: Reimbursement for travel expenses (mileage, meals not included) to the 67<sup>th</sup> State Higher Education Executive Officers Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon.

Date of Receipt: 09/27/21

Name of Donor: State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO)

Donor's Address: 3035 Center Green Drive, Suite 100, Boulder, CO 80301

Nature of Business Relationship with Agency: The State Higher Education Officers Association (SHEEO) equips state higher education executive officers and their staffs with the tools to effectively advance the value of higher education; promoting public policies and academic practices that enable Americans to achieve success in the 21st century; and serving as an advocate for state higher education leadership. The Commission for Higher Education is a dues paying member. Per the advice of the Inspector General's Office, the Commission paying annual dues to SHEEO qualifies as a business relationship.

State why acceptance is in the public interest: Indiana ranks 38th in the nation with a 48.3% educational attainment rate. Economists predict that Indiana will need a 60% educational attainment rate by 2025 to meet workforce demands. As the longest serving state higher education executive officer in the nation, Commissioner Lubbers serves on the SHEEO Executive Committee. Serving on the executive committee and attending their meetings allows Commissioner Lubbers the opportunity to learn from the work being done in other states. Additionally, it provides the opportunity for us to share Indiana's higher education story nationally.

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(Name of approving appointing authority or Ethics Officer)